

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
13 October 2005 (13.10.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/095379 A3

(51) International Patent Classification:
C07D 401/04 (2006.01)

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(21) International Application Number:
PCT/PL2005/000024

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(22) International Filing Date: 2 April 2005 (02.04.2005)

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(25) Filing Language: English

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(26) Publication Language: English

Published:

- with international search report
- with amended claims

(30) Priority Data:
P-366885 2 April 2004 (02.04.2004) PL
P-374074 1 April 2005 (01.04.2005) PL

(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 18 May 2006

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Date of publication of the amended claims: 13 July 2006

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(54) Title: CRYSTALLINE METHANESULFONIC ACID ADDITION SALTS OF IMATINIB

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to the methanesulfonic acid addition salts of Imatinib and to the processes for their preparation. In particular, the invention relates to the process for the preparation of Imatinib methanesulfonate a-crystal form. Furthermore, the invention is directed to a novel acid addition salt of 4-(4-methylpiperazin-1-ylmethyl)-N-[4-methyl-3-[(4-pyridin-3-yl)pyrimidin-2-ylamino] phenyl] benzamide with two molecules of methanesulfonic acid and the polymorphic forms thereof as well as their pharmaceutical compositions.

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